

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE

May 12, 2009

The Honorable,
The Board of Commissioners of Cook County

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chairman Collins, Commissioners Butler, Daley, Gainer, Murphy, Peraica and Sims (7)

Absent: Vice Chairman Beavers and Commissioners Claypool, Gorman, Goslin, Moreno, Maldonado, Schneider, Silvestri, Suffredin and Steele (10)

Also

Present: Patrick Driscoll – Deputy State's Attorney, Chief, Civil Actions Bureau; Daniel J. Brown – Assistant Executive Director; Carlos Quezada – Director of Cermak Mental Health Services, David S. Devane – Executive Director of Sheriff's Department and Earl Dunlap, Transitional Administrator - The Juvenile Temporary Detention Center

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your Committee on Criminal Justice of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County met pursuant to notice on Wednesday, May 12, 2009 at the hour of 1:00 P.M. in the Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Your Committee has considered the following item and, upon adoption of this report, the recommendation is as follows:

The Secretary of the Board informed Chairman Collins that a quorum was not present at this time, but testimony could be taken.

300318 RESOLUTION REGARDING REVIEW OF THE COOK COUNTY JUVENILE TEMPORARY DETENTION CENTER AND THE COOK COUNTY JAIL (PROPOSED RESOLUTION). Submitting a Proposed Resolution sponsored by Earlean Collins, County Commissioner.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

REVIEW OF THE COOK COUNTY JUVENILE TEMPORARY DETENTION CENTER AND THE COOK COUNTY JAIL

WHEREAS, Cook County is a home rule unit of local government pursuant to Article VII, Section 6 (a) of the 1970 Illinois Constitution, and as such may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs; and

WHEREAS, on April 14, 2009 a meeting was held at the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center ("CCJTDC") at which time Transitional Administrator Earl Dunlap presented a progress report on the state of the facility; and

WHEREAS, the guests were provided with information on the changes and improvements that have occurred at the CCJTDC since the arrival of Transitional Administrator Earl Dunlap in addition to future plans and continuing development of the facility; and

WHEREAS, this information is valuable in evaluating our compliance with the Memorandum of Agreement and should be presented to the Cook County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, we are also under a Federal Consent Decree regarding the Cook County Jail and are in need of a progress report in determining our compliance with that decree.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board conduct quarterly hearings of the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center and the Cook County Jail.

***REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE 05/05/09.**

Patrick Driscoll, Deputy State's Attorney, Chief, Civil Actions Bureau, stated that *Doe v.s. The Juvenile Temporary Detention Center* is pending in United States District Court before Chief Judge Holderman now who has the case on reassignment from Judge Nordberg. This case was started in 1999 and was filed by the ACLU as a class action covering all detainees at the Juvenile Temporary Center. In 2002 there was an original agreement entered into by Cook County and the plaintiffs that was modified again in November 2005. The 2006 Agreed Supplemental Order modified Implementation Plan was filed in May 2007. The plaintiffs were not satisfied with the progress that was being made and moved to ask for the court to take further action to insure compliance in order to avoid a very protracted trail and to continue to go forward. The County and the plaintiffs entered into an agreement resulting in a court order being entered in August 14, 2007 appointing Mr. Earl Dunlap as transitional administrator to come in and take over the operation of the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center, in order to put it in substantial compliance with the prior agreements that had been entered into by the County – not just partial compliance – to insure all agreements are being honored.

The Illinois State legislature passed a statute that transferred the control of the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center from the Office of the President to the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County. Chief Judge Evans by statute is the employer at the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center. Mr. Dunlap is the agent of the court.

Mr. Driscoll stated 9,000 inmates was the daily population at the jail. There are 9,751 available beds and the inmates are no longer bunking on the floors. The Cook County Board of Commissioners has approved the capital improvements, including construction for a new residential treatment unit and reception diagnostic center. There are custodial and non-custodial release programs being implemented by the Sheriff's Department, Women's Justice, Mom program, boot camp for custodial programs, electronic monitoring, day reporting, female furlough programs takes inmates out of daily confinement which reduces the number of inmates at the jail.

Chairman Collins asked are the employees getting training for the technical equipment at the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center.

Earl Dunlap, Transitional Administrator of the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center stated to complete training for the technical system the Cook County Board of Commissioners should approve Capital equipment requests currently in Committee.

Commissioner Peraica asked how many full time employees are with the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center.

Mr. Dunlap responded 500 full time employees. (See Attachment #1)

PUBLIC SPEARKERS

1) George Blakemore – Concerned Citizen

Chairman Collins thanked everyone in attendance and adjourned the meeting for lack of a quorum.

Respectfully submitted,
Committee on Criminal Justice

Earlean Collins, Chairman

Attest:

Matthew B. DeLeon, Secretary

The complete audio recording of this meeting is available in the Office of the Secretary to the Board, 118 North Clark Street, Room 567, Chicago, IL 60602.